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## The Woman Veterinarian

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# The Woman Veterinarian

There are more women veterinarians today than at any other time in the history of the veterinary medical profession, according to Dr. Marguerite Gulick, Secretary of the Women's Veterinary Medical Association.

The Association held its annual meeting in New York's American Hotel in conjunction with the American Veterinary Medical Association's 100th Annual Session, July 28-Aug. 1.

Dr. Gulick said that there are approximately 300 women veterinarians in the United States and Canada. In 1941, there were only about 50 women veterinarians practicing in the two countries.

About 60 per cent of the female practitioners are in private practice, while the remaining 40 per cent are engaged in research, teaching, meat inspection, and other areas such as zoo practice.

The woman veterinarian does not forsake her traditional role as wife and mother with acceptance of her D.V.M. degree, Dr. Gulick pointed out. More than 50 per cent of the women veterinarians are married and have families.

Dr. Gulick predicted that within the next 20 years the number of women entering the field of veterinary medicine will undoubtedly increase. She said that by 1980 the United States will need twice the number of veterinarians now practicing, and thus the opportunities for women veterinarians will continue to multiply.

"The gentle sex is becoming more cognizant of the unique and diversified career opportunities veterinary medicine has to offer," Dr. Gulick said. "There are now approximately 200 women studying veterinary medicine at 18 U.S. colleges and the Ontario Veterinary College in Canada."

She added that modern era of veterinary medical science has enabled women to meet the exacting responsibilities of the 20th century veterinary practitioner. With tranquilizers and improved anesthetics used increasingly in the handling and treatment of animals, women are now able to undertake most of the obligations of modern veterinary medicine.

"Women veterinarians in small animal practice, for instance, encounter little more physical labor than they would find were they pursuing a career in teaching or nursing," she noted.

Dr. Gulick said that women entering the veterinary medical profession can be assured of a challenging career in which they will contribute significantly to the advancement of scientific and medical progress in the United States.

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Virologic studies on specimens obtained from race tracks at Northfield Park, Ohio, and Laurel Park, Washington, D.C., furthermore indicate, according to the authors, that the newly isolated influenza virus has spread from Florida to many race tracks across the United States.

The authors suggest that the new virus be called A/equi/Miami/63.

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*\*Sulfa Drugs as Expectorants*—D. W. Grummitt

Like most expectorants, sulfas irritate the gastric mucosa and presumably set up reflexes via the afferent vagus to the brain stem. The drugs appear in the respiratory secretions in about the same amounts as they occur in blood. In the rabbit, of 4 sulfas tested only sulfadiazine produced increased secretions, but the increase in this case was marked (216%). Sulfathiazole was found to be essentially ineffective in dogs and cats, but very effective in guinea pigs. The indications are that sulfa drugs can be good expectorants, but more research is needed to establish the species and specific compound variations.